



## POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE IDENTIFICATION

ORIGINAL

REGION

SITE NUMBER

(Red)

NOTE: The initial identification of a potential site or incident should not be interpreted as a finding of illegal activity or confirmation that an actual health or environmental threat exists. All identified sites will be assessed under the EPA's Hazardous Waste Site Enforcement and Response System to determine if a hazardous waste problem actually exists.

## A. SITE NAME

SCHAFER EQUIP. Co.

## B. STREET (or other identifier)

## C. CITY

MINDEN

## D. STATE

WV

## E. ZIP CODE

## F. COUNTY NAME

## G. OWNER/OPERATOR (if known)

## 1. NAME

## 2. TELEPHONE NUMBER

## H. TYPE OF OWNERSHIP (if known)

☐ 1. FEDERAL☐ 2. STATE☐ 3. COUNTY☐ 4. MUNICIPAL☒ 5. PRIVATE☐ 6. UNKNOWN

## I. SITE DESCRIPTION

## J. HOW IDENTIFIED (i.e., citizen's complaints, OSHA citations, etc.)

EPA-REG III - EMERGENCY REMOVAL SECTION LISTING

## K. DATE IDENTIFIED

(mo., day, &amp; yr.)

12/10/84

## L. SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL OR KNOWN PROBLEM

160 TRANSFORMERS/60 CAPACITORS - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOW HIGH PCB LEVELS IN SOIL.

## M. PREPARER INFORMATION

## 1. NAME

YENER A. SÖYLEMEZ

## 2. TELEPHONE NUMBER

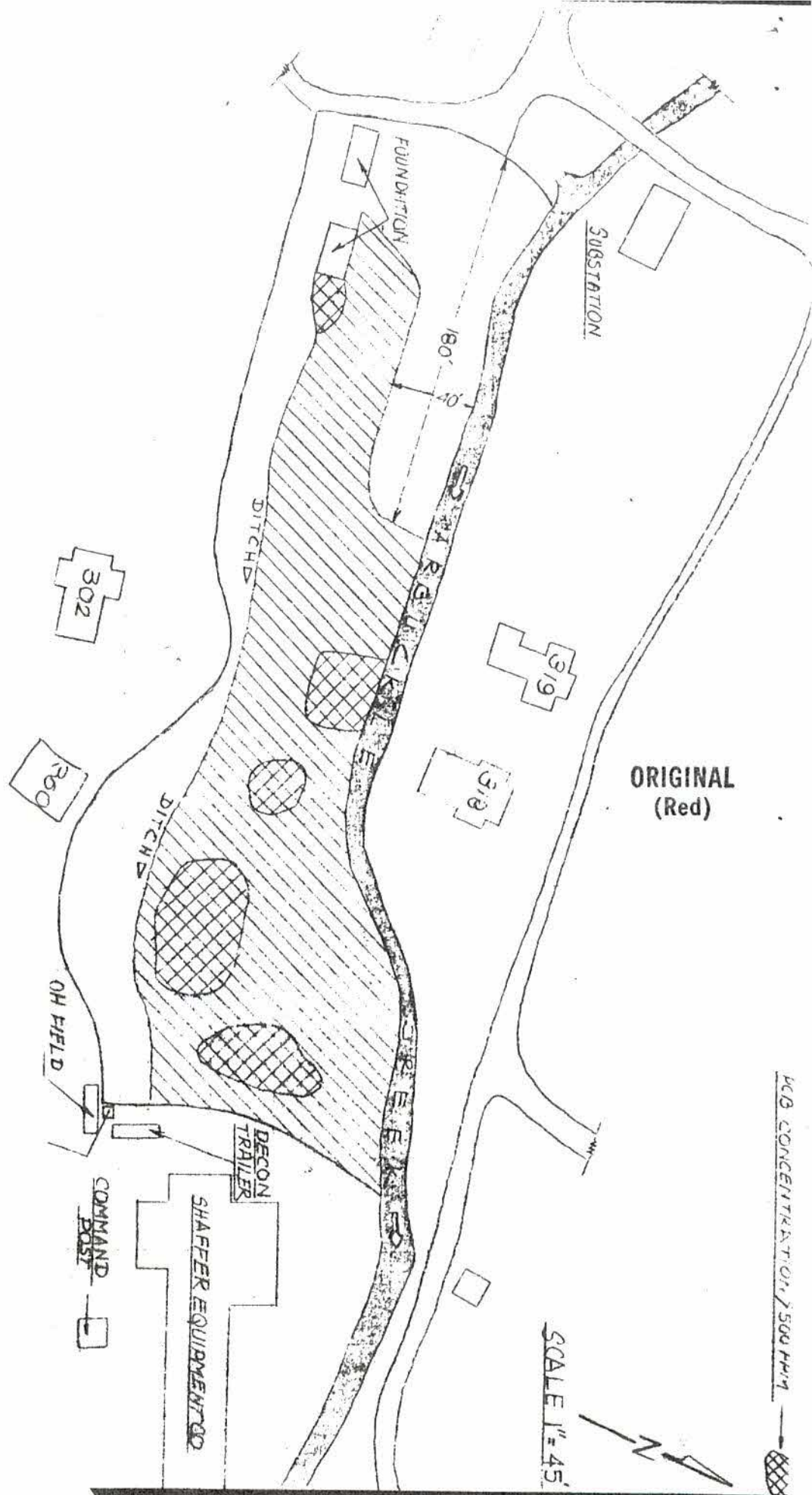
(215) 597-9800

## 3. DATE (mo., day, &amp; yr.)

12/10/84

WV-248  
Berwind Land Development Co.

EPA		POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT PART 1 - SITE INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT		I. IDENTIFICATION	
		01 STATE WV	02 SITE NUMBER 981038300		
II. SITE NAME AND LOCATION		WV 248			
01 SITE NAME (Legal, common, or descriptive name of site) Shaffer Equipment Company		02 STREET, ROUTE NO., OR SPECIFIC LOCATION IDENTIFIER WV Route 17			
03 CITY Minden		04 STATE WV	05 ZIP CODE	06 COUNTY Fayette	07 COUNTY CODE 019
08 COORDINATES LATITUDE 38° 58' 35" N LONGITUDE 81° 07' 38" W		08 CONG DIST 02			
10 DIRECTIONS TO SITE (Starting from nearest public road) From US 19N take the Main Street exit in Oak Hill, turn right, then make an immediate left onto old Minden Road (Route 17). Go to bottom of hill, turn right on dirt road just before first house.					
III. RESPONSIBLE PARTIES					
01 OWNER (If known) Anna Shaffer *		02 STREET (Business, mailing, residential)			
03 CITY Minden		04 STATE WV	05 ZIP CODE	06 TELEPHONE NUMBER ( )	
07 OPERATOR (If known and different from owner)		08 STREET (Business, mailing, residential)			
09 CITY		10 STATE	11 ZIP CODE	12 TELEPHONE NUMBER ( )	
13 TYPE OF OWNERSHIP (Check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/> B. FEDERAL <input type="checkbox"/> C. STATE <input type="checkbox"/> D. COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> E. MUNICIPAL <input type="checkbox"/> F. OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> G. UNKNOWN					
14 OWNER/OPERATOR NOTIFICATION ON FILE (Check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> A. RCRA 3001 DATE RECEIVED / / <input type="checkbox"/> B. UNCONTROLLED WASTE SITE (CERCLA 103 c) DATE RECEIVED / / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. NONE					
IV. CHARACTERIZATION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD					
01 ON SITE INSPECTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES    DATE / / <input type="checkbox"/> NO BY (Check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> A. EPA <input type="checkbox"/> B. EPA CONTRACTOR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. STATE <input type="checkbox"/> D. OTHER CONTRACTOR <input type="checkbox"/> E. LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIAL <input type="checkbox"/> F. OTHER CONTRACTOR NAME(S):					
02 SITE STATUS (Check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. ACTIVE <input type="checkbox"/> B. INACTIVE <input type="checkbox"/> C. UNKNOWN		03 YEARS OF OPERATION 1970    Present <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN			
04 DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANCES POSSIBLY PRESENT, KNOWN, OR ALLEGED Polychlorinated biphenyls					
05 DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD TO ENVIRONMENT AND/OR POPULATION Direct contact hazard posed by severely contaminated soils and leaking transformers and capacitors,					
V. PRIORITY ASSESSMENT					
01 PRIORITY FOR INSPECTION (Check one. If high or medium is checked, complete Part 2 - Waste Information and Part 3 - Description of Hazardous Conditions and Incidents): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. HIGH (inspection required promptly) <input type="checkbox"/> B. MEDIUM (inspection required) <input type="checkbox"/> C. LOW (inspect on time available basis) <input type="checkbox"/> D. NONE (no further action needed, complete current disposition form)					
VI. INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM					
01 CONTACT Pamela D. Hayes		02 OF (Agency/Organization) WV DNR - SW/HW/GW Branch		03 TELEPHONE NUMBER 304 348-5935	
04 PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSESSMENT Pamela D. Hayes		05 AGENCY WV DNR	06 ORGANIZATION Water Resources	07 TELEPHONE NUMBER 304 348-5935	08 DATE / /





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

ORIGINAL  
(Red)

SUBJECT: Request Assistance from FIT Office

DATE:

FROM: Bob Panebianco, Environmental Scientist  
Site Investigation Section (3HW23)

TDD # \_\_\_\_\_

TO: Butch Byer, FIT Region Project Officer  
Site Investigation Section (3HW23)

I. SITE NAME: SHAFFER EQUIPMENT CO. ( WV-248 )  
DSN

II. LOCATION: MINDEN, WV

III. WORK ASSIGNMENT:

☐ Preliminary Assessment  
☒ Site Inspection  
☐ Hazard Ranking System  
☐ Toxicology Assessment  
☐ Enforcement Support

☐ Recon  
☐ Re-Sampling/Full Field Investigation  
☐ Peer Review Corrections/Finalize  
☐ Other (See VI below)

IV. PRIORITY:

☒ High (\*) ☐ Medium ☐ Low

V. PREFERRED DEADLINE:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

VI. EXPLANATION OF TASK (\* To include justification for high priority):

*Perform site investigation. Submit sampling plan to SIO before field work commences. PCB's are ~~the~~ primary concern at this site. Informative on groundwater is needed in order to complete the HRS score. Please call SIO at 597-8333 if there are questions.*

VII. To be completed by FIT RPO only:

Task complete date by FIT:.....

Hours allocated:.....



ORIGINAL  
(Red)

## L IDENTIFICATION

01 STATE  
WV

02 SITE NUMBER  
981038300

WV-248

## II. WASTE STATES, QUANTITIES, AND CHARACTERISTICS

01 PHYSICAL STATES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> A. SOLID	<input type="checkbox"/> E. SLURRY
<input type="checkbox"/> B. POWDER, FINES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F. LIQUID
<input type="checkbox"/> C. SLUDGE	<input type="checkbox"/> G. GAS
<input type="checkbox"/> D. OTHER _____	

(Specify)

02 WASTE QUANTITY AT SITE  
(Measures of waste quantities must be independent)

TONS \_\_\_\_\_

CUBIC YARDS \_\_\_\_\_

NO. OF DRUMS \_\_\_\_\_

03 WASTE CHARACTERISTICS (Check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A TOXIC	<input type="checkbox"/> E SOLUBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> I HIGHLY VOLATILE
<input type="checkbox"/> B CORROSIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> F INFECTIOUS	<input type="checkbox"/> J EXPLOSIVE
<input type="checkbox"/> C RADIOACTIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> G FLAMMABLE	<input type="checkbox"/> K REACTIVE
<input type="checkbox"/> D PERSISTENT	<input type="checkbox"/> H IGNITABLE	<input type="checkbox"/> L INCOMPATIBLE
		<input type="checkbox"/> M NOT APPLICABLE

### III. WASTE TYPE

CATEGORY	SUBSTANCE NAME	01 GROSS AMOUNT	02 UNIT OF MEASURE	03 COMMENTS
SLU	SLUDGE			
OLW	OILY WASTE	4000	cu. yds.	Contaminated soil
SOL	SOLVENTS			
PSD	PESTICIDES			
OCC	OTHER ORGANIC CHEMICALS			
IOC	INORGANIC CHEMICALS			
ACD	ACIDS			
BAS	BASES			
MES	HEAVY METALS			

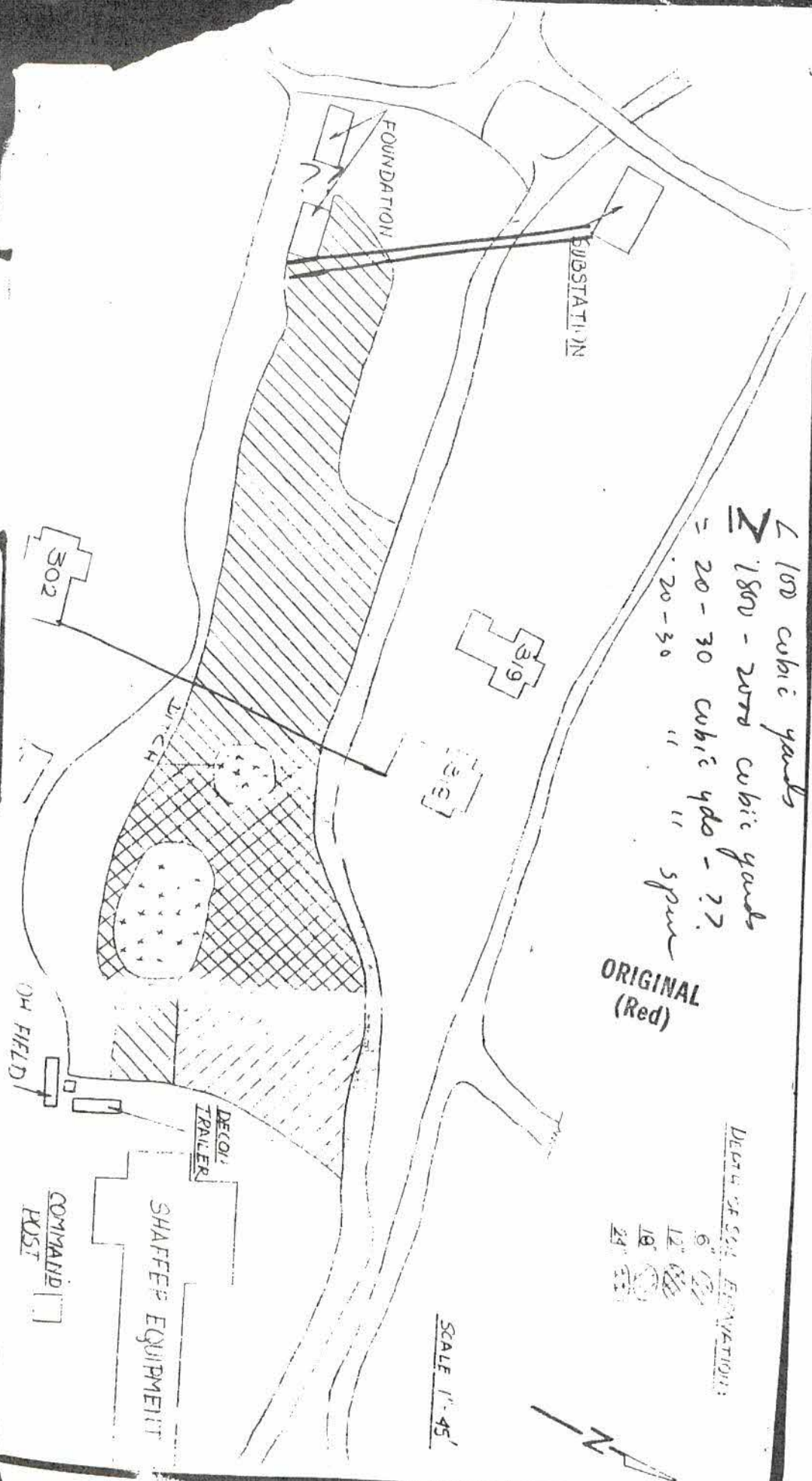
## IV. HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (See Appendix for most frequently cited CAS Numbers)

[illegible]V. FEEDSTOCKS *See Appendix for CAS Numbers*

CATEGORY	01 FEEDSTOCK NAME	02 CAS NUMBER	CATEGORY	01 FEEDSTOCK NAME	02 CAS NUMBER
FDS			FDS		
FDS			FDS		
FDS			FDS		
FDS			FDS		

## VI. SOURCES OF INFORMATION (Cite specific references e.g. state files, sample analysis reports)

Sample analysis and files - W. V. Division of Water Resources  
Solid and Hazardous Waste/Ground Water Branch  
1201 Greenbrier Street  
Charleston, WV 25311



4 100 cubic yards  
 2 1800 - 2000 cubic yards  
 = 20 - 30 cubic yds - ??  
 " 20 - 30 " " spare

ORIGINAL (Red)

DEPTH OF SOIL EXPOSURE:

6" 12"  
 18" 24"  
 30" 36"  
 42" 48"

SCALE 1" = 45'



ORIGINAL  
(Red)



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE  
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT  
PART 3 - DESCRIPTION OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

I. IDENTIFICATION  
01 STATE WV 02 SITE NUMBER 981038300  
WV-248

II. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

01 ☒ A. GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED 0  
02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE \_\_\_\_\_) XX POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
Population is on public water supply from the Arbuckle PSD. A clay layer under the site is apparently halting downward migration of PCB/s.

01 ☒ B. SURFACE WATER CONTAMINATION  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED \_\_\_\_\_  
02 ☒ OBSERVED (DATE 9-5-84) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
Levels as high as 190ppm exist in stream sediment of Arbuckle Creek.

01 ☒ C. CONTAMINATION OF AIR  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED 65-75  
02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE \_\_\_\_\_) X POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
Potential for inhalation of PCB contaminated dust.

01 ☐ D. FIRE/EXPLOSIVE CONDITIONS  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED \_\_\_\_\_  
02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

01 ☒ E. DIRECT CONTACT  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED 65-75  
02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE \_\_\_\_\_) X POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
Site is unfenced and easily accessed, 65-75 people live within 400-500 feet of site. Documented cases of vandalism to transformers and capacitors have occurred. There is a basketball court within 100 feet. Nearest residence is within 200 feet.

01 ☒ F. CONTAMINATION OF SOIL  
03 AREA POTENTIALLY AFFECTED \_\_\_\_\_ (Acres)  
02 ☒ OBSERVED (DATE 9-5-84) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
4000 cubic yards of soil contaminated by leaking or dumping of transformers and capacitors.

01 ☒ G. DRINKING WATER CONTAMINATION  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED 2000  
02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE \_\_\_\_\_) X POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
Water line once ran through site, but was relocated during site cleanup. Town of Minden on public water supply which is unaffected.

01 ☒ H. WORKER EXPOSURE/INJURY  
03 WORKERS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_  
02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ POTENTIAL ☒ ALLEGED  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
Past workers have complained of rash from direct contact with oil.

01 ☒ I. POPULATION EXPOSURE/INJURY  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED 65-75  
02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE \_\_\_\_\_) X POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
Direct contact hazard on site (see E-direct contact above) and migrating offsite at significant levels into Arbuckle Creek which runs directly through the town of Minden. Levels detected of 150ppm in residences backyards.



LEGEND

SNOW FENCE

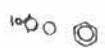
WATER LINE

SEWER LINE

MAIN HOLE

WATER POINT

HYDRANT

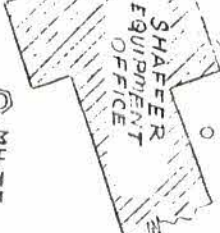


ABANDONED HOUSE



FOUNDATION

130  
(AV)



MH-35

550

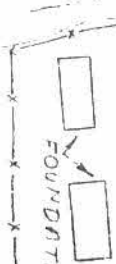
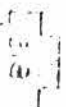
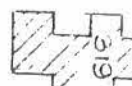
LINE

6" WATER



MH-37

ORIGINAL  
(Red)



ORIGINAL  
(Red)



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE  
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT  
PART 3 - DESCRIPTION OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

I. IDENTIFICATION  
01 STATE WV 02 SITE NUMBER 981038300  
WV-248

II. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS (Continued)

01 ☒ J. DAMAGE TO FLORA  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☒ OBSERVED (DATE: 9-5-84 )

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

Stressed vegetation present on site.

01 ☐ K. DAMAGE TO FAUNA  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Include name(s) of species)

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: )

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ L. CONTAMINATION OF FOOD CHAIN  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: )

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☒ M. UNSTABLE CONTAINMENT OF WASTES  
(Spills, runoff, standing liquids, leaking drums)

02 ☒ OBSERVED (DATE: 9-5-84 )

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Leaking transformers and capacitors on site. Standing water has oil sheen.

01 ☐ N. DAMAGE TO OFFSITE PROPERTY  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: )

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ O. CONTAMINATION OF SEWERS, STORM DRAINS, WWTPs  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: )

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ P. ILLEGAL/UNAUTHORIZED DUMPING  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: )

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

05 DESCRIPTION OF ANY OTHER KNOWN, POTENTIAL, OR ALLEGED HAZARDS

III. TOTAL POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 65-75

IV. COMMENTS

Site currently undergoing emergency removal.

V. SOURCES OF INFORMATION (Cite specific references, e.g. state files, sample analysis reports)

Files - WV Division of Water Resources  
Solid and Hazardous Waste/Ground Water Branch  
1201 Greenbrier Street  
Charleston, WV 25311

ORIGINAL  
(Red)

Access Road and Power Line Easement

5.01  
3.18

7.00' Hill

5.00' Hill  
Hill

Access Road and Power Line Easement



## NARRATIVE SUMMARY

ORIGINAL  
(Red)

### SHAFFER EQUIPMENT CO.

#### General Information

A preliminary assessment performed in accordance with the National Contingency Plan has identified an immediate and significant risk of harm from a direct contact threat posed by the presence of severely contaminated soils and leaking transformers and capacitors containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) located on this site.

The Shaffer Equipment Company site is located on West Virginia Route 17 in Minden, West Virginia. Minden is a small coal town located in Fayette County with approximately 2000 residents. There are an estimated 65-75 people who live within 1/8 mile of the site. The Shaffer Equipment Company is an operating firm that builds electrical substations for the local coal mining industry. Many of their units incorporate various sizes of transformers, capacitors, switches and other voltage regulation/distribution devices. The company has operated since 1970. Past practices involved the storage of unneeded, damaged or outdated transformers and capacitors on the one acre site. Leakage from these units and associated storage practices appears to be responsible for the severe PCB contamination problem that presently exists on site.

The site is approximately one acre in size and contains a single building which is both a workshop/warehouse and office. The site is relatively flat and slopes toward the west. Arbuckle Creek is located down gradient and to the west and has been shown to contain PCB's in the sediment. (194ppm)

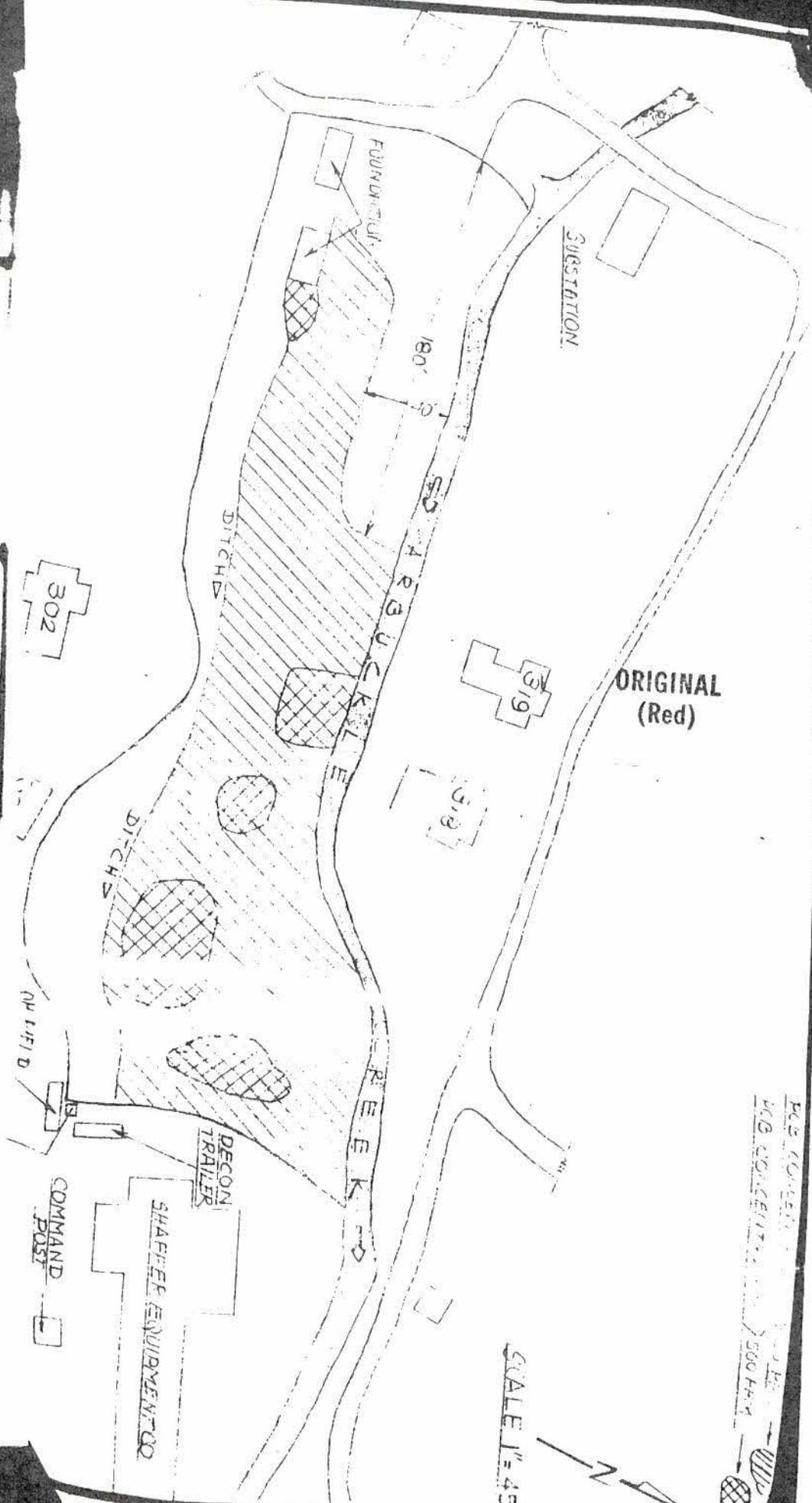
PCB's have been shown to be migrating from the site to Arbuckle Creek. Levels as high as 190ppm have been shown to exist in stream sediments. A water sample collected downstream indicates that there are PCB's in the water column, however, laboratory analytical problems resulted in an artificially high reported value of 4ppm, probably due to the presence of suspended solids in the sample.

#### Hazardous Substances Involved

PCB has been found in soils and sediment on site. Levels as high as 27% have been found in heavily stained soils. It is estimated that approximately 1000 cubic yards of soil has been contaminated with PCB in excess of 50ppm. In addition, there are an estimated 150 transformers, 60 capacitors and 75 drums on site. Labels were found which indicate that some transformers and capacitors are filled with PCB fluids.

#### Threat to Human Health

It is estimated that between 65-75 people live within 400-500 feet from this site. The principle threat to human health appears to be from direct contact. The site is unfenced and is easily accessed. There are documented cases of vandalism on site involving transformers and capacitors by local youths. The nearest residence is less than 200 feet from the site and there is a basketball court located within 100 feet. The sampling program initiated during the preliminary assessment phase indicates that PCB's are migrating off site. PCB has been found in the sediment of Arbuckle Creek as high as 194ppm and was also detected in a stream water sample at 4ppm. Arbuckle Creek flows directly through the town of Minden and eventually into the New River.



PCB CONCENTRATION  
PCB CONCENTRATION  
500 FT  
SCALE 1" = 45'



ORIGINAL  
(Red)

Summary of Overall Threat

Soils severely contaminated with PCB and unsecured PCB filled transformers and capacitors present a direct contact threat to nearby residents. Unsecured access and the close proximity of the residents makes this a likely possibility. PCB's have been shown to be migrating off site at significant levels into a nearby stream (Arbuckle Creek) which runs directly through the town of Minden, West Virginia.

The site is currently undergoing emergency removal. Contaminated soils have been stored on site awaiting onsite treatment. The site is bermed and an underdrain is in place to halt offsite migration of PCB's. Cleanup is currently inactive awaiting a break in the winter weather.



DEPTH OF SOIL ELEVATION:

- 6'
- 12'
- 18'
- 24'

SCALE 1" = 45'

ORIGINAL  
(Red)

SUBSTATION

FOUNDATION

DECON. TRAILER

SHAFTER EQUIPMENT

COMMAND POST

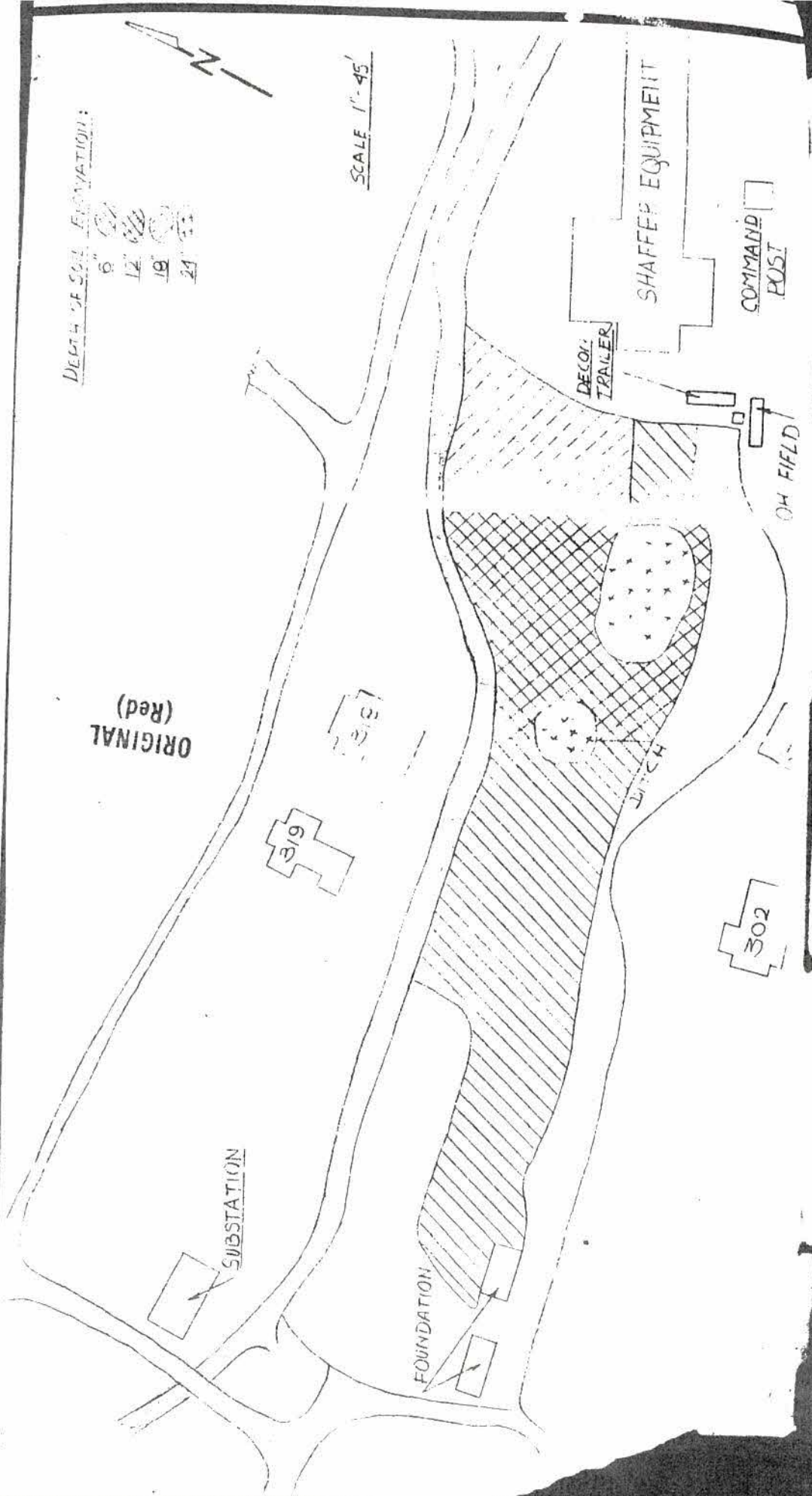
ON FIELD

319

302

WITCH

316



ORIGINAL  
(Red)

319

319

MH-35

ARBUCKLE

6" WATER LINE

MH-37

130  
(44)

FOUNDATION

SEWER LINE

MH-36

300

302

ABANDONED HOUSE

SHAFER  
EQUIPMENT  
OFFICE

MH-35

LEGEND

SNOW FENCE

WATER LINE

SEWER LINE

MAN HOLE

WATER POINT

HYDRANT



ORIGINAL  
(Red)

501  
318

Access Road and Sewer Line Easement



KRN

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

**ORIGINAL  
(Red)**

**SUBJECT:** Revised Draft HRS of Shaffer  
Equipment Company

**DATE:** SEP 08 1987

**FROM:** Mindi Snoparsky, Geologist *ms*  
Site Support Section (3HW26)

**TO:** Ken Kryszczun, Chief  
Bob Panebianco, SIO  
Site Investigation Section (3HW23)

Previous written comments (July 14, 1987), and phone conversations with FIT identified problem areas in the groundwater section of this HRS. Detailed information concerning groundwater is lacking primarily because a SI was not performed at the site (this was a decision made by the previous SIO, Yener Soylemez). For this reason, Ken Kryszczun, Bob Panebianco, and I decided that a SI should be performed and the HRS left in draft form.

Although the HRS will be finalized in the near future, FIT's interim draft should have addressed previous comments and noted that some of the data gaps were to be filled in the future from data collection performed during the SI. However, these comments were not addressed in this draft (specifically, the discussion regarding depth from the ground surface to the highest seasonal level of the water table is incorrect). Please let the FIT know of this problem so that similar situations may be avoided in the future.

KRN

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION III

841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

SUBJECT: Review of Shaffer Equipment HRS

DATE: JUL 11 1987

FROM: Mindi Snoparsky, Geologist *ms*  
Site Support Section (3HW26)

TO: Ken Kryszczun, Section Chief  
Site Investigation Section (3HW23)

Bob Panebianco, SIO  
Site Investigation Section (3HW23)

ORIGINAL  
(Red)

Observed Release

1. The available information indicates that PCB's were released into the soils, not necessarily the Pennsylvanian aquifers. Reference number 11, Soil Survey of Fayette and Raleigh Counties, West Virginia indicates the thickness of the Philo silt loam to be 4 feet, below surface. Thus, the contamination found in the on-site 12 inch core (references 5 and 7) is probably indicative of soil contamination.

In addition, the depth to water of 6 inches noted in the telecon between Robert Caren and Paul Dietrich (reference 7) may also represent saturated soil. More information regarding the material that the well taps is needed before presuming that the well is completed in the Pennsylvanian aquifer(s).

2. Reference 5 indicates that the 12 inch core is saturated with oil, not PCB's.
3. Reference 2, p. 14 (Sampling and Measuring Plan, Shaffer Equipment Co. Site, Minden, WV) indicates that the source of the on-site spring is unknown. Thus, it should not be assumed that the spring emanates from the water-table as is indicated in the discussion.
4. Since reference 20 Water Resources of Kanawha County does not refer to Fayette County, I would suggest only using reference 19 Groundwater Hydrology of the Minor Tributary Basins of the Kanawha River, West Virginia in the AOC section.





WVP 991039300  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service  
Agency for Toxic Substances  
and Disease Registry

## Memorandum

Date September 25, 1985

From Acting Chief, HAB, OHA

Subject Public Meeting on Schaffer Electric Life  
Minden, West Virginia - July 2, 1985

To Stephen Margolis, Ph.D., Acting Director *sn*  
Office of Health Assessment

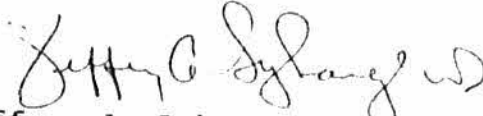
Dr. Roy Barren of the West Virginia State Health Department telephoned on September 19, to obtain information about our assessment of the Schaffer Electric Site in Minden, West Virginia as related to my attendance at a public meeting in Minden on July 2, 1985. The only written assessment in this site is a memorandum from the Chief of the Superfund Implementation Group on February 20, 1985 (attached), which indicates that the site requires remedial work and that there is off-site migration of PCB material, but "the data so far received do not suggest that an off-site hazard to public health exists at this time."

The Special Studies Branch nor the Health Assessment Branch was requested to review this site. I did review the file prior to attending the meeting and provided several conclusions at the meeting in line with the assessment performed by the Superfund Implementation Group. Those conclusion were:

1. The Schaffer Electric Site constitutes a imminent and significant public health threat based upon having up to 21 percent PCB containing oil in the soil.
2. Off-site migration of PCB material in the range of 11-17 ppb of PCB material in residence soils do not suggest a hazard to public health.
3. Eliminating the source of the contaminated to prevent further migration of the PCB is necessary.
4. One stated concern related to PCB potentially causing mutation of stream bacteria, from an upstream waste treatment plant, rendering the bacteria more pathogenic to humans. I suggested that this was an unlikely event.

Page 2 - Stephen Margolis, Ph.D.

5. The community wanted a health study, and I related that studies of similarly exposed populations in the U.S. had not resulted in elevated PCB blood levels (ie. Bloomington, Indiana, Fairmont, West Virginia, Ashtabula, Ohio).

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Lybarger".

Jeffrey A. Lybarger, M.D.

Attachment

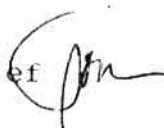


Rec'd 4/20/89

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 30, 1989

SUBJECT: Phila. Inquirer Article-  
Shaffer Superfund Site

FROM: Jon M. Capacasa, Acting Chief   
Superfund Branch

TO: Tom Voltaggio, Acting Director  
Hazardous Waste Management Division

Page one of today's Philadelphia Inquirer carried an article by Julia Klein alleging serious health hazards remaining at the Shaffer site in Minden, WVA due to PCB contamination. EPA was involved in a removal action at this site from December, 1984 to March, 1988.

The attached fact sheets provide several quick facts on the removal action, how the site was left and the status of site ranking for further remedial action under Superfund. Additional questions on this can be handled best by Dennis Carney, Phil Younis or Ben Mykijewycz.

After your review of this information we should discuss appropriate responses to the article to present the Agency's perspective.

Attachments

cc: J. Viniski  
L. Teller  
D. Welsh  
D. Carney  
K. Kryszczun

① who spoke to DWE Press Officer

② Drums outside fence

REGION III  
CERCLA EMERGENCY RESPONSE/IMMEDIATE REMOVAL ACTION

PROJECT #75

FACTS SHEET

SITE: Shaffer Equipment

SIZE: 1 acre

LOCATION: Minden, Fayette County, West Virginia

APPROVAL DATE: December 26, 1984

PROJECT DATES: December 28, 1984 through December 20, 1987

DESCRIPTION: The Shaffer Equipment Company was an operating firm that built electrical substations for the local coal mining industry. The company's past practices involved the storage of unneeded, damaged or outdated transformers and capacitors. Leakage from these units and associated storage practices appears to have been responsible for the severe PCB contamination on site. The high concentrate of PCB's on site and the evidence of off-site migration necessitated an immediate removal action.

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL: Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)

QUANTITIES REMOVED: 23 drums capacitors, 24 drums transformer fluid, 32 drums transformer flush, 31 transformers, 50 drums solids, 4 drums coagulant, 9 drums PCB-contaminated liquid and 4735 tons PCB-contaminated soil. *Final cleanup level - 16 ppm.*

OSC: Robert E. Caron, Philip C. Younis

REMOVAL CONTRACTOR: O.H. Materials, Inc.

DISPOSAL LOCATIONS: General Electric, Philadelphia, PA; CECOS, Model City, NY; Chem Waste Management, Emelle, AL; SCA Chemical Services, Chicago, IL

PROJECT COST: \$3,851,872 (Estimated)

COMMENTS: New innovative technology was instituted at this site under Research and Development permits through TSCA. However, the extraction process proved ineffective and the PCB-contaminated soil was ultimately landfilled at an approved facility.

Robert E. Caron, Sr. OSC

Philip C. Younis, OSC





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III

841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

SUBJECT: FACT SHEET - Shaffer Equipment CERCLA  
Removal Site, Minden, Fayette County, WV  
EPA Site ID #D8

March 30, 1989

FROM: Philip C. Younis, On-Scene Coordinator

TO: Dennis Carney, Assistant Superfund Branch Chief

This memorandum is in response to the newspaper article published in the Philadelphia Inquirer on March 30, 1989. I have compiled the attached information, including the Facts Sheet from the OSC Report and site photographs to document site conditions as they existed at the completion of the EPA on-site removal activity on December 20, 1987. Furthermore, it is important to note that, on December 5, 1988, I revisited the site with Technical Assistance Team members to gather Enforcement information and inspect on-site conditions. During that visit, we determined that the restored site area remained in excellent condition and that no threat to public health or the environment existed.

All drums generated from the cleanup effort had been removed from the site by February 18, 1987 and the last truckloads of contaminated soil and debris were transported off site for final disposal on November 11, 1987. Both drums and soils were disposed of off site at Chem Waste Management in Emelle, Alabama and SCA Chemical Services in Chicago, Illinois.

In reference to today's newspaper article, I contacted WVDNR officials at 1000 hours this date (March 30, 1989), and learned that WVDNR officials were unaware of the abandoned drums at that time. They advised that an immediate inspection of the site would be conducted. At 1135 hours, Sgt. Waugh of WVDNR informed me that the local inspector had just returned from the site and that only two drums of non-PCB, non-flammable waste oil were found at the site. Additionally, according to WVDNR Public Information Officer Carol Herrick, public concern and awareness of PCB cleanup sites in the Beckley area have created major press interest and she believes that several recent newspaper articles contain either pictures or library clips from pre-cleanup site activities. Therefore, both the WVDNR and EPA can conclude that the recent picture of abandoned drums is one that was taken prior to final cleanup activities and that no hazardous wastes exist at the site, nor have they existed since the time of the EPA removal action.

Attachments: Facts Sheet from OSC Report  
Site Photographs (8)

Sgt. Waugh

980 -3042

my checkbook  
w/ D. J. F.  
Wash  
Myer  
found to  
be false-  
Drums were  
present on  
4/89 site visit

Pre-Remedial Status

SHAFFER EQUIPMENT COMPANY  
Minden, W.V.

Site Use Summary

- Company worked on electrical mining equipment
- equipment contained PCBs
- PCB containing fluids released to soil

1984

- \* WVDNR reported site to EPA. PCB contamination probably occurred prior to TSCA regulation.

12/19/84

- \* EPA's Emergency Response Section began removal.
- \* drums sampled, one removed due to PCB concentration greater than 50 ppm.
- \* On-site extent of contamination determined, soil removed
- \* PCB contamination found downstream and in yards adjacent to stream in the general range of 11-17 ppm.
- \* ATSDR indicated no off-site public health hazard existed- recommended elimination of source of contamination.

9/16/86

- \* PA completed by State - High priority.

9/10/86

- \* SI prepared from available information.

12/86

- \* Draft HRS prepared by FIT.
- \* Draft HRS scored greater than 28.5.
- \* Internal QA questioned observed release to groundwater, GW(spring) PCB "hit" felt to be from saturated soil.

12/20/87

- \* Emergency Response Section completed site work.
- \* Area homes supplied municipal water closest source is a mine shaft 0.85 miles distant.

1/13/89

- \* Final HRS score is 28.2.

1989

- \* LSI candidate.
- \*\* MWS will be drilled
- \* WV will do LSI via CA

Prepared by: Bob Panebianco  
Date: March 30, 1989



3/30/89  
Phila.  
Inquirer  
P. 1A

# Fear grips a polluted mining town

## *Residents blame PCBs for rampant medical woes*

By Julia M. Klein  
*Inquirer Staff Writer*

MINDEN, W.Va. — Some residents of this polluted old coal-mining camp still laugh when they remember the Environmental Protection Agency's suggestion that they build a basketball court on ground once laced with cancer-causing PCBs.

But their laughter gives way quickly to old resentments and new fears — fears that seep out, like an ancient chemical, in stories of death and disease.

"Sometimes it just scares me," said

Dorothy Buckland, 44, who has suffered three miscarriages. "Cause I had a little boy that died of cancer down here. So I never know when one of the others are going to get it. ... I got six left.

"We done been contaminated with the stuff. ... It's going to give us cancer and kill us. Look at all the people down here who's got cancer. There's a woman right down over the hill there that died last week with cancer, one up yonder dying with cancer on the hill."

A preliminary health survey of 173

people randomly selected from Minden's 600 residents found that 16 percent have cancer. Sixty-two percent of the adult women in the survey have had miscarriages, stillbirths or children with birth defects. And about 31 percent of residents have recurrent infections.

The response of government to Minden's problems, which residents believe are caused by the dumping and spillage of PCB-contaminated oils from old mining equipment, has been a qualified yawn, according to a

(See MINDEN on 8-A)



# Fear grips a polluted W. Va. town

**MINDEN, from 1-A**  
group called the Concerned Citizens to Save Fayette County.

The federal government, they ain't cared nothing about the poor people," said Elijah Buckland, 58, a school custodian and Dorothy's husband. "They've been letting us down for years."

Alleging that a three-year, \$2.3 million EPA cleanup effort was inadequate, the Concerned Citizens want the federal government to buy out and relocate the 800 people in Minden and neighboring Rock Lick.

"The state and county government has ignored this situation for five years because they don't want their tourist industry, their white-water rafting industry, their nearby New River affected," said Larry Rose, the group's chairman. "They'd really and truly rather write Minden off, and that's what they've done."

## State disagrees

State tourism officials deny any such conspiracy.

"This office would not do anything derogatory to any community," said Charles Spears, acting commissioner of the West Virginia Department of Commerce. "We're here to build up the state, not tear it down."

Officials at the West Virginia Department of Health say soil and water samples taken from Minden since the cleanup are insufficiently contaminated to indicate a health risk. And Ann Cardinal, an EPA spokeswoman, said that the agency is still reviewing the situation in Minden to see if further action is warranted.

But one politician who has tried to help Minden, where the average annual per capita income hovers around \$4,000, concedes that its poverty and isolation have not helped its cause.

"It's terrible the things that I hear that are happening there," said state Sen. Robert K. Holliday, a Democrat who recently sponsored a resolution to study Minden's health problems and the cost of relocating its residents, whom he represents.

"It's hard to say that other people are not concerned about indigent people, but I don't believe they are."

Minden hides in the hollows of the West Virginia hills, clusters of neatly kept homes alternating with dark, abandoned shacks and lawns littered with shattered glass.

Here, behind a muddy landscape pocked by scrap metal, bits of pipe and rusting barrels, sits the Shaffer Equipment Co., which is said to have dumped large quantities of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the area before the chemicals were considered a health hazard.

A family of stable organic chemicals, PCBs were once commonly used as liquid insulators in electrical equipment. In 1977, because of increasing links found between PCB exposure and such health problems as cancer and birth defects, the EPA banned their use in all but "totally enclosed systems."

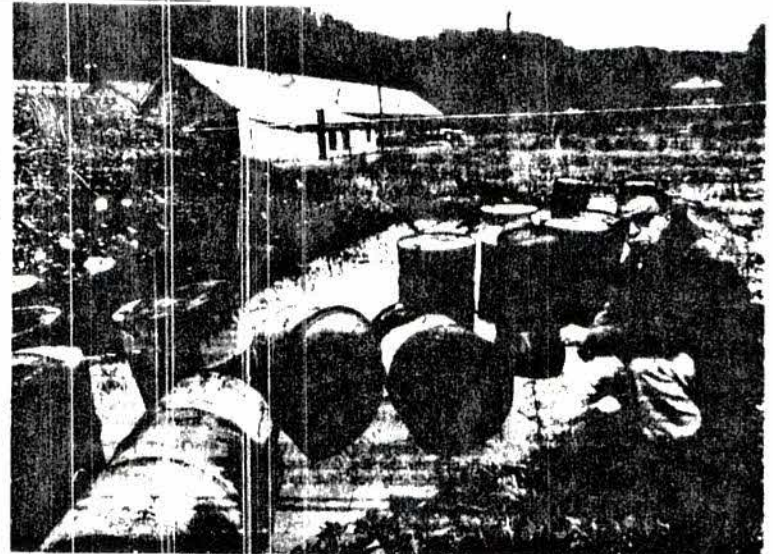
In front of the Shaffer plant is the site cleaned up by the EPA between 1984 and 1987 at the request of the state Department of Natural Resources. From here, the EPA carted away 4,500 tons of PCB-contaminated dirt to a landfill in Alabama, according to EPA spokeswoman Cardinal.

## Minden must wait

That action was done "to immediately abate an immediate health risk," Cardinal said, which was caused by the accessibility of the site to the public. It may take until next year to determine whether Minden will be placed on a national priority list for further cleanup, she said, in part because the EPA is "in the process of changing our scoring system."

While Minden waits, officials to the state to continue to monitor the situation, Cardinal said.

But Carol Herrick, a spokeswoman for the state Department of Natural Resources, said that Minden is not EPA's top priority.



Resident Lucian Randal with chemical drums on the grounds outside the Shaffer plant.

tip of the iceberg, and we think there are much more problems down the road for these people," he said.

Said Haddy: "I don't deny at all that they're probably having health problems. What I can't confirm for them is that their health problems are related to that PCB site."

Meanwhile, West Virginia's "difficult financial situation makes an immediate buyout unlikely," said state Delegate John Hatcher, a Democrat who represents Fayette County and is sponsoring a buyout bill.

One state estimate placed the cost of purchasing 200 Minden-area families at \$21 million. And Cardinal of the EPA said that buyouts have been restricted to only rarely for such highly contaminated areas as Love Canal, N.Y., and Times Beach, Mo.

Waiting for some solution has taxed the patience of residents such as Sue Workman, a receptionist and vice chairwoman of the Concerned Citizens.

"I always believed that it was a government for the people, of the people and all that, and that if something went wrong, you went to your



The Philadelphia Inquirer

government and they would take care of it," said Workman, 30.

"And what I've learned in the four years that I've been involved with this is, it's not true at all. Unless you have money," she said, "the government don't care about you."



Dorothy Buckland  
"It's going to kill us"

Meanwhile, the people of Minden are wrestling daily with an invisible and unquantifiable danger.

Fueling their fears are conversations with former Shaffer employees, who say that the EPA removed only accidental spillage of PCBs and missed the less accessible main dump site entirely.

"I watched them dump it on the ground—I mean, hundreds of thousands of gallons," George D. Burgess Jr., a former electrical technician for Shaffer, told a Concerned Citizens meeting earlier this month.

"You're sitting on a time bomb, whether you know it or not. My advice to you is do what you can to get out."

## Tests find no peril

Loreta Haddy, an epidemiologist with the state Health Department's Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, said that soil and water samples did not indicate dangerous levels of PCB contamination in Minden. "There was evidence that there was some immigration off-site, but the off-site samples were not at a level of concern," she said.

But Dr. Hassan Zaid, a local hematologist and oncologist, said the number of patients he has had with allergies, skin cancers and other forms of cancer from the Minden area was abnormally high. His suspicions inspired him to conduct the preliminary health study with Vanderbilt University's Center for Health Services.

The data from that survey suggested the need for a more complete and scientifically controlled study, he said. "We think we are waiting for



111/45-7 10/1/90  
 Rec'd 4/25/89  
 From: L. Rose  
 Public Mtg

# CONCERNED CITIZENS TO SAVE FAYETTE COUNTY

P. O. Box 75 - Minden, WV 25879 - (304) 469-6247

Chair. Larry Rose  
 Vice-Chair. Susan Workman  
 Second Vice-Chair. Edith Dempsey  
 Third Vice-Chair. Lucian Randall  
 Secretaries Larry Chandler & Marjorie Zastawniak  
 Treasurer John David  
 Technical Advisor Paul McGhee



EPA (Region III)  
 3HW23  
 841 Chestnut Building  
 Philadelphia, PA 19107

Date ? 4/24/89

Dear Mr. Bob Panapeanko,

*Parebianco (RPM)*

Around eight months ago you and I discussed the Minden, West Virginia Superfund site and I inquired as to the ranking (HRS - Scoring, Priority List) of Minden for remedial cleanup. During our conversation you stated that a new scoring system would be in operation by April of 1989 and that at the present Minden had not been ranked. Also, you stated that Minden was under consideration for remedial cleanup because of the ground water supply that was deep feeding into Minden Mines. This water supply lies directly under the Shaffer Equipment site and provides 60% of the water supply for the entire Oak Hill-Plateau area.

Our group and the residents are very concerned that the Minden site was not immediately designated for remedial action after the 4,800 cubic yards of PCB's were transported to the M-L site at Sumpter County Alabama. PCB's (and PCDF's) abound throughout the areas of Minden and Rock Lick for the Shaffer Equipment Company dumped and burst thousands of gallons of the contaminate in and around the immediate location. However, a second site which the former employees have pointed out as the main dump area (a pit 20' x 40' x 12' deep covered with compacted coal shale and "Red Dog") located around 200 yards from the EPA cleanup site still remains and has not been dealt with. The former employees have noted that this location was the main dumping area which received thousands of gallons of PCB's. Bob Caron, who was at the time the on-site coordinator, stated that the EPA knew of the second dump site, but felt that it was secure. This is not an adequate response for no core samples were taken and the community feels that shale and Red Dog is not a sufficient barrier to contain thousands of gallons of PCB's.

We are requesting an immediate response to this request, justification of your response, and appeal procedures.

Long-term remedial cleanup is vital to the health and safety of the Minden residents.

Yours truly,

Larry Rose

CC: Freedom of Information Request  
 Senator John D. Rockefeller  
 Congressman Staggers  
 Governor Gaston Caperton



Concerned Citizens to Save  
Fayette County  
P.O. Box 68  
Scarbrough, West Virginia 25917  
July 10, 1986

Honorable John D. Rockefeller IV  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Rockefeller,

We appreciate your sharing with us the letter you received from James Seif, Region 3 Administrator of the EPA, June 25, 1986. We of the Concerned Citizens to Save Fayette County are also very concerned with the health and safety of our friends and family in Minden. That concern obligates us to point out what we feel is misinformation in Mr. Seif's letter. We hope that these problems will be corrected and the immediately required actions to protect our community will be taken. We will respond to each point in the order they were presented in the letter.

First of all, the containment structure no longer appears adequate. Prior to July 1st, members of our organization observed runoff from the soil pile. The runoff flowed out from the containment area and stained the surrounding soil. Heavy rains, typical of this area, fell July 1 and caused flooding of the Arbuckle Creek and many people's yards. After the rain stopped, the drainage pattern of the site was more clearly marked by a red oily trail originating at the dump site and visible all along the ground to the rock filter area. The rock filter area is separated from Arbuckle Creek by a concrete wall approximately two and one-half feet tall. There are three drainage pipes passing through the wall. From the opposite side of the wall to the Arbuckle Creek is only about ten more feet of drainage channel. This ten feet was also coated with the red substance and the chemical odor in the air was much stronger than usual. We realize that red is not a typical color for PCBs, but it is apparent that this red substance, whatever it is, is contaminating Arbuckle Creek and probably our backyards.

The next points concern site security. The fence erected is only a two foot tall snow fence. The EPA polreps say that there should be a chain link fence on the site. There are no visible warning signs, even the sign that marked the area as an immediate action cleanup site has fallen over. Signs on the snow fence read simply "posted" or mock the seriousness of the health threat, saying, "No hunting or fishing".

Complete and proper notification of the residents concerning the hazards associated with the site has also been lacking. People living within a half-mile radius of the site say that they received no warnings about the PCB contamination.



Neither were they informed of any emergency evacuation procedures necessary in case of an accident involving the large quantities of methanol used by the EPA during the attempted cleanup.

Public meetings were held and left the residents confused about health effects and ways to limit potential exposure. For instance, many people's backyards are in the floodplain of Arbuckle Creek and testing has shown contamination up to 17 parts per million (ppm). They were told at one meeting not to garden and at another that everything was safe. Levels as high as 190 ppm have been found in the creek sediment and people are still eating snapping turtles from there because it's said to be safe. We are not sure what information we've been given is reliable and we are very frustrated by the lack of clear safety information.

The next point addresses the security guards on site. The police rarely come to Minden unless called; those 12 visits a day do not happen. There's a small plywood building labeled "high voltage" that was padlocked shut. For the past two weeks, that door has been left propped closed with a board or hanging open. The lock was simply torn off.

We have a number of other concerns. The two ponds, sumps for collecting groundwater, are tempting places for children to play. But, children who played there have come down with skin rashes.

There are also over thirty barrels left on site, apparently by the EPA; many are clearly labeled "CAUTION PCB". They are also clearly labeled "contaminated clothing", or "contaminated liner". These seem to be the remains of the failed cleanup attempt. These barrels are stored in various places around the site. Some are loosely sealed making hissing, sputtering noises, while others have been left in standing water surrounded by algae.

To this point in our response, we've just discussed the area where the EPA has done preliminary containment work. Before discussing the completion of cleanup at the site, what we believe to be the major PCB dumping area needs to be tested. Former Shaffer employees report that the area cleaned up in front of the Shaffer office building is just the product of incidental spillage. The disposal of PCBs was actually done by pouring the contents of transformers and capacitors ranging in size from 40 to 500 gallons directly into a hole behind the site. This hole was about 12 feet deep, 40 feet wide and 50 feet long and was located at the drift mouth of the old Minden Mine. To our knowledge, no testing of this area has been done, although the EPA has been informed. So, while removal of the soil pile is a first step, complete cleanup is still far off. The issue of contamination of Arbuckle Creek, people's yards, and what we believe is the major contamination area, have not been adequately dealt with.

The last point in Mr. Seif's letter we would like to address is the mention of ongoing contact with citizens groups. We have

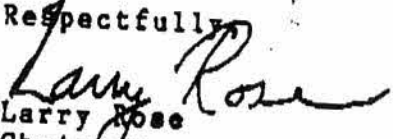
had no contact with EPA personnel over the past two months. Our last contact was when Larry Rose, chairperson, was notified that the EPA would not be returning to finish the cleanup as scheduled.

In summary, it is obvious to us that considerable differences exist between what Mr. Seif is reporting to you and what we have experienced and see every day. Now, over a year and a half after this process began, our concerns remain the same. We again request the immediate removal and proper disposal of the contaminated soil pile and all other contaminated materials, i.e. the possible second major dump site, the Arbuckle Creek, and people's yards. Until these cleanups are accomplished, we are asking for these minimum safety precautions to be taken:

- 1) that a more effective means of containment be promptly installed;
- 2) that more frequent, extensive monitoring be done to verify containment;
- 3) that we receive copies of all monitoring results;
- 4) that a ten foot chain link fence be erected around the perimeter of the entire cleanup site and;
- 5) that a clear explanation of the potential exposure and health risks associated with the PCB contamination in Minden be given to the people. To assure an understanding of these issues, we would like a written factsheet to circulate in the community followed by a public hearing to answer remaining questions.

We would like to thank you for your continued concern and attention to this community problem. Please feel free to contact any member of our group for further details or to arrange a visit.

Respectfully,

  
Larry Rose  
Chairperson



*Susan Workman*

Susan Workman  
Vice Chairperson

*John David*

John David  
Treasurer

*Patty Baldry*

Patty Baldry  
Secretary

*Edith Dempsey*

Edith Dempsey  
Executive Committee

*Paul J. McGhee*

Paul McGhee  
Technical Advisor

*Hassan Amjad M.D.*

Dr. Hassan Amjad  
Medical Advisor

*Kirstin Dow*

Kirstin Dow  
Student Environmental Health  
Project (STEHP)

*John Henry Johnson*

John Henry Johnson  
STEHP

*John Kevin Welch*

John Kevin Welch  
Appalachian Student Health  
Coalition

cc. Senator Robert Byrd  
Representative Harvey Staggers  
Lee Thomas, EPA Administrator  
Thomas Voltaggio, Branch Chief  
Superfund Branch, Region 3  
Bob Caron, On Site Coordinator  
Superfund Branch, Region 3  
James Seif, Regional Administrator  
Region 3 EPA

SHAFFER SITE VISIT/MEETING - APRIL 25, 1989  
Senator Jay Rockefeller and Concerned Citizens of Fayette County

ACTION ITEMS and MEETING SUMMARY

1. HEALTH ASSESSMENT OF RESIDENTS

It was agreed that the best approach would be a state-requested, ATSDR conducted Health Assessment to ensure the timely initiation of a quality health survey. If the Assessment proves cause and effect then more formal studies may be initiated by ATSDR.

It was agreed that such a Health Assessment would be of best value if not rushed to completion, had the benefit of all environmental data collected during the Listing Site Investigation and had benefit of the data and protocol from the Vanderbilt Univ. health survey (estimated completion September, 1989).

Action: The WVA Health Dept. needs to request the Health Assessment from ATSDR and coordinate with the state funded study. EPA should followup with the state to make sure this request occurs. The desired timeframe for initiation is fall, 1989.

2. Listing Site Investigation

EPA shall initiate a LSI with the WVA DNR as the agent for completion under a cooperative agreement starting 7/1/89.

EPA should specify that this LSI start is a key priority for the upcoming Coop. Agreement so it starts as soon as feasible. The LSI will assess risks in a 3-mile radius of the Shaffer site.

Special attention should be given to citizen's concerns for:

- the 3-mile study area and not just Minden; there was concern for all residents in Rocklick, Minden and the New River area.
- airborne contamination problems from prior burning of PCBs and from burning of timber in the area;
- flooding conditions which have carried PCB soils downstream and into people's yard;
- consumption of game animals by hunter's and other domestic animal impacts;
- an assessment of public water supply contamination by leakage into the mine shaft which serves as the source;
- direct contact threats from soil/dust being transported offsite by vehicles, excavation, etc.
- other hot spots of contamination than previously identified.

3. Water Supply Sampling

Considerable concern was voiced relating to PWS contamination and ingestion or body contact with PCB contaminated water.

Sampling should be initiated at the PWS by either EPA, the



states or the PWS to assess the current hazard.

#### 4. Drum Removal and Enforcement Status

19 drums remained visible on the Shaffer property in a diked area and many had labels denoting drum numbers from the removal action. They are located in a diked area outside the fence d boundary of the Shaffer site.

EPA needs to confirm the final disposition of the drums left on-site from the removal action and the final disposition of an enforcement order to Mrs. Shaffer to remove these. Drum logs/pictures should be researched to determine the contents and intended disposition.

If an action by Mrs. Shaffer is not forthcoming to remove such drums, EPA should proceed under the 311 Oil Spill and/or TAT Special Projects to confirm the contents and remove the drums. The present position of the drums will lead to continuing adverse publicity about the cleanup by EPA.

Phil Younis should check file records and initiate such actions as are necessary to remove drums in consultation with Enforcement staff.

#### 5. Vanderbilt University Study Results

The Vanderbilt Study of Health Effects arranged by the Concerned Citizens of Fayette County ought to be shared with ATSDR, WVA and County Health Department officials.

This would include the protocol, apriori objectives and final peer reviewed results. The methodology and data will prove useful in an ATSDR conducted Health Assessment of the site and environs.

Action: The Citizens Group needs to provide the final report and data to ATSDR and state officials.

#### 6. Letter to Senator Rockefeller

A proactive response to the senator should be issued by the RA based on our visit to Minden. It should confirm the first 2 actions agreed upon at the public meeting and highlight the other actions EPA is taking to address resident's concerns. The Senator should also be thanked for conducting a positive meeting and supporting our efforts to date.

Charlie K. and Jon C. will draft the response.

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III

841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

**SUBJECT:** Trip Report-Shaffer Equipment Site,  
Minden, West Virginia

**FROM:** Theresa E. Bickel *TEB*  
Office of Public Affairs (3PA00)

**TO:** E. Ann Cardinal, Supervisor  
Office of Public Affairs (3PA00)



**DATE:** MAY 12 1989

Purpose

On May 9 and 10 I visited the Shaffer Equipment Site in Minden, West Virginia for the purpose of meeting with community members to discuss ongoing and future site activities. I met with representatives of Concerned Citizens to Save Fayette County (CCSFC) on Tuesday evening and again on Wednesday. I also toured the site and talked with residents that did not attend the meetings set up by CCSFC.

Issues and Action Items

The community is very concerned about the health effects of PCBs. Many of the citizens I talked to believe that they have, or will be affected by the PCB contamination left onsite. This belief is due primarily to misinformation and rumors generated by a few community members and outsiders, such as Lois Gibbs and Paul McGhee, an optometrist from a nearby town who serves as the technical advisor for CCSFC. Larry Rose, CCSFC leader, was not able to attend the meetings.

1. Health Assessment of Residents

The residents are aware that a health assessment will not begin until the LSI and Vanderbilt University health survey are complete. However, the residents are concerned that WVA Health Department will not request the Health Assessment from ATSDR in a timely manner.

The community also made it clear that it will not accept any health assessment coordinated by Lorretta Haddy, WVA Department of Health epidemiologist. Minden residents believe that Ms. Haddy does not take their health concerns seriously and has already concluded that there is no relationship between the PCB contamination at the Shaffer site and their health problems. This issue needs to be resolved before the Health Assessment begins.

Action: EPA should ensure that the state requests the Health Assessment by the Fall, 1989.

Action: EPA, ATSDR, WVA Dept. of Health officials, and CCSFC should meet to discuss who will coordinate the Health Assessment in WVA.

## 2. Listing Site Inspection

In addition to items agreed to be performed by EPA and ATSDR at the meeting with Senator Rockefeller and CCSFC, the residents would like other hot spots examined in the scope of the LSI, including:

- resampling 6 (six) transformers found on the "Mountain Laurel" property.
- sampling road material near Sam's Body Shop in Rocklick. Citizens suspect PCB-contaminated material was used as road material.
- include East Oak Hill in LSI.
- sample slate pile on Minden Ave.

Action: Bob Panebianco should include these additional hot spots in LSI workplan with WVA.

## 3. Drum Removal and Site Stabalization

Residents were informed of onsite activities. CCSFC requested sampling results when available.

Action: Phil Younis should send sampling results to Public Affairs as soon as results are available. I will send sampling results to CCSFC and information repository.

## 4. Information Repository

No information repository has been developed for the site.

Action: Phil Younis should provide Public Affairs copies of sampling results from the 1984-87 Removal and any other information pertinent to the Shaffer Equipment site. This should be done by May 30th. I will then develop an information repository at the local library and send these materials to the library.

cc: Phil Younis (3HW22)  
Charlie Kleeman (3HW26)  
Tom Voltaggio (3HW20)  
Jon Capacasa (3WM40)  
Lynn Wilder (3HW22)  
Rich Kampf (3CI00)



JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV  
WEST VIRGINIA

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 1, 1989

STATE OFFICE:  
812 QUARRIER STREET  
SUITE 200  
CHARLESTON, WV 25301  
347-6372

NORTHERN SATELLITE OFFICE:  
200 ADAMS STREET, SUITE A  
FAIRMONT, WV 26554  
367-0122

SOUTHERN SATELLITE OFFICE:  
115 S. KANAWHA STREET, SUITE 1  
BECKLEY, WV 25801  
253-9704

Mr. Edwin B. Erickson  
Regional Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
841 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Mr. Erickson:

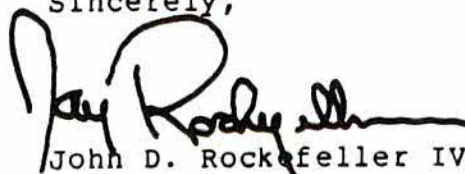
As you may be aware, I have been working closely with local residents in Minden, West Virginia for several years in an effort to make sure that PCB contamination is promptly eliminated from the community.

Last month, I hosted a meeting in Minden of officials from your office, the West Virginia Health Department, the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, and local residents, to discuss further clean-up efforts. We also toured the former Shaffer Equipment site and the surrounding area. During this tour, we found a number of barrels that had not been removed from the site. I asked EPA officials if those barrels posed a danger, and was told that they did not. Now it is my understanding from a recent communication from your office to WOAY television in Oak Hill that the barrels are being studied for possible removal.

The residents of the Minden area and I have grown frustrated by this mess for years, and it is time to take action to ensure that the community is safe. I would like to request that your office provide me with a full report on the contents of the remaining barrels and an update on the status of your agency's activities in Minden. I am particularly concerned about initiating the health assessment as soon as possible, and would ask that you let me know what actions must be taken to begin the study.

Thank you in advance, Mr. Erickson, for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
John D. Rockefeller IV

*Howard*

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DRAFT 6/7/90

DON JOE  
CommentsP. 02  
please to

Charles K.

x4015

1/16/90 J. SCHOKK

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

LETTER DID GO

OUT!



6-22-89

Honorable John D. Rockefeller, IV  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Rockefeller,

I appreciate your continued commitment to the residents of Minden, West Virginia regarding the cleanup at the Shaffer Equipment hazardous waste site. The residents of Minden are experiencing considerable fear and frustration stemming from various aspects of the cleanup there along with information being given to them from outside State and Federal government regarding possible health effects from exposure to poly-chlorinated biphenyl (PCB).

Let me take this opportunity to up date you on our continuing plans for present and future action at the site resulting from our site visit and meeting with you, the residents of Minden, and representatives of Concerned Citizens to Save Fayette County on April 25, 1989.

EPA's 1984-1987 actions to remove the immediate direct contact threat posed by the site consisted of the removal of transformers, capacitors, transformer fluids, and related equipment containing PCB as well as excavation and disposal of 4735 tons of PCB contaminated soil from the Shaffer Equipment site. Remaining on-site at the close of our removal action were nineteen drums of miscellaneous non-PCB waste materials for which Mrs. Shaffer had agreed to arrange for final disposal. Mrs. Shaffer was unable to carry out that agreement, and these drums were still on-site at the time of our site visit on April 25th. As a consequence during the week of May 1-5, 1989 we have sampled and overpacked those nineteen drums, as well as the soil beneath the drums. The water from the diked containment in which the drums were located has also been placed in a tank truck. All of these materials have been safely staged on-site pending final transportation and disposal arrangements.

Further remediation at the Shaffer Equipment site under the Superfund Remedial program depends on whether or not the site ranks high enough on the Agency's Hazard Ranking System (HRS). The study which will collect the data to be used to make that determination is called a Listing Site Investigation (LSI). West Virginia's Department of Natural Resources (WVDNR) will be responsible for carrying out the LSI under cooperative agreement funding from EPA beginning in late Summer 1989. The LSI can be expected to take at least six months to complete. The LSI will include the collection of data and environmental

page 2

samples from an area in a three mile radius of the Shaffer Equipment site.

In response to the residents fears about their health, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) has agreed to conduct a health assessment or consultation at the request of the State Health Department. This will result in a report from ATSDR which will describe the pathways for exposure, the type and likelihood of health effects from exposure, and will make recommendations for further action or further study if necessary. It is my understanding that ATSDR will not commence its study until it receives the results of the LSI previously described as well as the Vanderbilt University study which is being conducted on behalf of the Concerned Citizens to Save Fayette County. This will ensure that the most comprehensive and up to date information is used by ATSDR in its study.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you and the residents of Minden. If I can be of further assistance to you in this matter please do not hesitate to call me at 215-597-9800.

Sincerely yours,

Edwin B. Erickson  
Regional Administrator

bcc: Honorable John D. Rockefeller, IV  
United States Senator  
Suite 200 812 Quarrier Street  
Charleston, West Virginia 25301





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION III

841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

MAY 3 1990

Mr. Donald Y. Joe, P.E.  
Agency for Toxic Substances  
and Disease Registry  
Atlanta, GA 30333

Dear Mr. Joe:

Enclosed are sample results for the Schaffer Equipment site located in West Virginia which the Environmental Protection Agency agreed to forward to your Agency. All samples results are included except for dioxin results. The dioxin results will be forwarded to your agency as soon as we receive them.

Presently, the sample analyses have not been through a Quality Assurance (QA) review. You will receive a QA package with a toxicological evaluation in early June, 1990. The dioxin QA package and toxicological evaluation will be sent to you by the end of June.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 215/ 597-1110.

Sincerely,

*Maria T. Malave*

Maria T. Malave,  
Pre-Remedial Section

cc: Ben Mykijewycz, Chief

RECEIVED  
MAY 10 1990

A T S D R  
REGION III

FILE

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

Copy → John Steward  
Joseph Schock / 10-27-92  
Max Howie

SUBJECT: Comments on the Shaffer Electric  
Site, Public Health Assessment

DATE: 10-16-92

FROM: *Stephen Jarvela*  
Stephen Jarvela, OSC  
Superfund Removal Branch

TO: Charles Walters  
ATSDR Regional Representative

I have conducted a review of the Initial Release Petitioned Public Health Assessment for Shaffer Electric Company, Minden, Fayette County, West Virginia.

The only comment is that the conclusion of the health assessment is based on June, 1990 data and it does not consider the removal activities conducted from November, 1990 to January, 1991. Additional sampling was conducted in November, 1991 and is available for consideration. The conclusion appears to be based on the concern of direct contact to anyone trespassing on the site. The excavation conducted in 1990 & 1991 focused on the highly contaminated surface areas identified. Excavated areas were backfilled with clean fill from the site.

Clearly subsurface contamination remains on-site. Exhaustive sampling of the site was not conducted, however, all areas previously identified as having high levels of PCB contamination have been excavated and backfilled. This should be considered any conclusion drawn by ATSDR.

If you have any questions or require additional information please contact me at (215)597-7915.



# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4802

June 5, 1990

Dear Ted,

As you know my staff, members of your pre-remedial response team, and the Citizens to Save Fayette County met and toured the Shaffer facility and the surrounding community of Minden, West Virginia. The purpose of the meeting and the subsequent tour was to permit the citizens to show EPA the areas that they wanted to have included in the sampling process.

I am very pleased that EPA involved the community in this effort. However, I would like to be sure that the three mile sampling that was promised in April 1989 will be performed. I am concerned about reports from my staff that lead me to believe that future sampling efforts may hinge on the results of the confirmatory samples taken in May.

These samples taken in March and then confirmed in May were only on the Shaffer site, not from a three mile radius. I will not be satisfied that the commitment made to me and the residents of Minden in April of 1989 has been upheld if further sampling is not performed.

The matter of the contamination inside the building continues to be a problem. Will EPA be able to collect samples from inside the building?

Ted, this situation has to be resolved and I implore you to make every effort to do so. If my office can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to call me or Kiena Smith of my staff.

Sincerely,



John D. Rockefeller IV

Mr. Edwin Erickson  
Regional Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
841 Chesnut  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

AR80001C

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4802

Hwms

July 17, 1990

Dear Ted,


I have received a letter from Larry Rose of the Concerned Citizens to Save Fayette County. In this letter Mr. Rose raises a number of concerns regarding the three mile radius study that EPA committed to do in response to my request in April 1989.

There seem to be a variety of activities occurring at the Schaffer site. To ensure that all parties have a thorough understanding of the activities undertaken by EPA at Minden, it would be helpful to have a listing of completed tasks and those that remain.

I am forwarding a copy of Mr. Rose's letter to you. My staff has informed me that you are aware of the contents of the letter and have begun responding to the concerns that have been raised.

Ted, the satisfactory resolution of the situation at Minden is a top priority. If you need additional information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Kiara Smith of my staff.

Sincerely,

  
John D. Rockefeller IV

Mr. Edwin Erickson  
Regional Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
841 Chesnut  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

AR300016





REGION III  
1841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

9/19/90

Honorable John D. Rockefeller, IV  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rockefeller:

Thank you for calling me yesterday to convey the anxiety felt by residents of Minden concerning the Environmental Protection Agency's commitment to proceed with the Superfund cleanup of the Shaffer Equipment site.

As we discussed, the Environmental Protection Agency discovered several PCB-contaminated locations at the Shaffer site, and we have scheduled the removal of these contaminated soils for late October or early November of this year. I have concurred in the documentation to support the funding for this cleanup, and have every reason to believe that it will be approved at EPA Headquarters in the very near future.

I learned yesterday that a media report speculated about the potential impact of a substantial sequestration of federal funds on the Minden project. While no one knows for sure how a sequestration will affect specific Superfund activities, EPA intends to move forward with the cleanup as soon as we can. Should a sequestration require a delay in the cleanup, I will immediately inform you about it.

I hope that our telephone conversation and this letter are helpful to you. Your communication with the citizens of Minden has been appreciated.

Sincerely,

Edwin B. Erickson  
Regional Administrator

AR300025



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-4431

RECEIVED  
JUN 28 1993

ATSDR  
REGION III

JUN 28 1993

Charles Walters  
HHS/ATSDR  
USEPA Region III, HWMD (3HW01)  
841 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Re: ATSDR Petitioned Public Health Assessment  
Shaffer Electric Site, Minden,  
Fayette County, West Virginia

Dear Mr. Walters:

On June 1, 1993, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) published its Petitioned Public Health Assessment (Health Assessment) on the Shaffer Electric Site (the "Site"), Minden, Fayette County, West Virginia. The ATSDR concluded that the "Site poses a public health hazard because of the on-site risk to human health resulting from possible exposure to hazardous substances [PCBs] at concentrations that may result in adverse health effects." ATSDR also reports that it is unable to determine whether the Site poses any public health threat to the general off-site population, citing the need for additional PCB data. Thus the Health Assessment states that the Site is an "indeterminate" hazard for the general off-site population.

In response, EPA has always acknowledged that residual PCB contamination remains at the Site. However, EPA's removal action, by design, instituted a number of activities (e.g. excavation, soil cover and fencing) to prevent any direct human contact with, or exposure to, remaining on-site contaminants. A 6 foot chain link fence was installed across the access road, just west of the existing building, from the Arbuckle Creek on the north end to the hillside on the south end. The fence was installed to restrict access to the Site. It was EPA's prior opinion that the fencing, in combination with the additional Site actions, was sufficient to restrict access to the Site and protect the public from exposure to hazardous substances and from any potential adverse health effects. It remains EPA's opinion that the site does not present a health hazard to the off-site population.

ATSDR's Health Assessment expressed concerns over the Site access issue due to the fact that the existing fence does not completely surround the Site perimeter. In recognition of the concerns expressed in the Health Assessment, EPA proposes to further evaluate the site and the related site access issue. To address site access concerns, EPA anticipates the need to



perform additional sampling in order to provide sufficient information to determine if additional action is required.

EPA will not make any decision or initiate any action on the Site access or sampling plan issues prior to consultation with ATSDR or The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WV-DEP). (In this regard, EPA has compiled all of the analytical data in the Site file and organized the data in table format. The data has been plotted on site maps, which have been drawn to scale. All areas of excavation have been charted and mapped, identifying pre and post analytical data. All of this information is attached.) As part of this proposed course of action, EPA will include in its review the sample data collected by the concerned citizen group, which previously has been submitted to the Agency. EPA will also consider any comments or suggestions that state and local government agencies and/or concerned citizens might wish to submit.

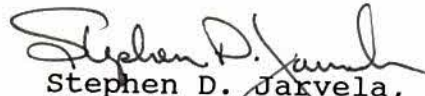
To ensure that all relevant concerns are addressed, EPA is asking that ATSDR and all other interested parties review the attached maps and charts and thereafter provide any facts, data or other information that may aid EPA in its review. Please submit your responses, by August 27, 1993, to:

Stephen D. Jarvela, OSC  
Superfund Removal Branch (3HW30)  
EPA Region III  
841 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19170

EPA will review the existing, as well as any newly submitted, data and information and then prepare a draft sampling plan. The sampling plan will identify the locations, depth, and method(s) of any additional sampling that may be required. The purpose of the sampling plan is to assure that the analytical data obtained provides a complete and thorough examination of the on-site health risk and site access issue. The draft sampling plan will be distributed, for review and comment, to ATSDR, the WV-DEP, potentially responsible parties, the Concerned Citizens to Save Fayette County, Inc., and to State and local officials. Comments to EPA's proposed sampling plan will be addressed in the context of a final sampling plan for implementation by the appropriate party or agency, as necessary or appropriate.

EPA thanks ATSDR for its review and recommendations and encourages continued interagency coordination in the assessment of potential environmental and public health hazards.

Sincerely,

  
Stephen D. Jarvela,  
On-Scene Coordinator

attachments

cc: w/attachments

Honorable Robert W. Byrd,  
United States Senate

Honorable John D. Rockefeller IV  
United States Senate

Honorable Nick J. Rahall II  
House of Representatives

Pam Hayes, WV-DEP  
Concerned Citizens to Save Fayette County, Inc.  
Anna Shaffer  
Berwind Corporation  
The Johns Hopkins University  
Joseph Schock, WV Dept. of Health, w/o attachments





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-4431

FILE COPY

JAN 24 1994

Charles Walters  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry  
c/o EPA Region III Hazardous Waste Management Div. (3HW01)  
841 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Mr Walters;

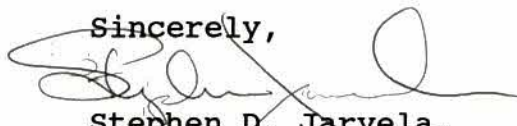
Thank you for your help and the support of Jeff Church, ATSDR, Atlanta, GA in the Shaffer Site project review. As promised I am sending you a copy of the Site Review Trip Report attachment 1 for your information. Based on my initial review of the report I do not think it will have any impact on the Petitioned Public Health Assessment, however I am considering the possibility of an ATSDR consultation based on the information in this report and the site file, I would appreciate your thoughts on the idea.

I have also asked other interested parties to review the trip report and identify any concerns or questions that they might have. I want to schedule a meeting with all interested parties to discuss in detail the conditions of this site. I am willing to discuss each and every issue or concern raised in the past or may now be raised about the Shaffer Site. Because of past confusion and misinformation, every issue or concern discussed will be documented and a written EPA response prepared and distributed.

The past file review and the recent site visits indicate a need for further action. While it is premature to discuss the scope of such action, everyone will be given an opportunity to present and defend their preferred option at the meeting. I have asked that, each interested party develop their own options addressing the risks associated with the site that they have identified. All options will be discussed, documented, and will be incorporated in the OSCs recommendation.

Again thank you and if you have any questions or require additional information please call me at (215)597-7915.

Sincerely,



Stephen D. Jarvela,  
On-Scene Coordinator

attachment

cc Joseph P. Schock, Director (w/attachment) WV-HHS

FILE COPY



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-4431

RECEIVED

JUN 28 1993

ATSDR  
REGION III

JUN 28 1993

Charles Walters  
HHS/ATSDR  
USEPA Region III, HWMD (3HW01)  
841 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Re: ATSDR Petitioned Public Health Assessment  
Shaffer Electric Site, Minden,  
Fayette County, West Virginia

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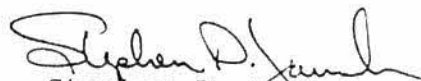
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EPA thanks ATSDR for its review and recommendations and encourages continued interagency coordination in the assessment of potential environmental and public health hazards.

Sincerely,

  
Stephen D. Jarvela,  
On-Scene Coordinator

Attachments

cc: w/attachments

Honorable Robert W. Byrd,  
United States Senate

Honorable John D. Rockefeller IV  
United States Senate

Honorable Nick J. Rahall II  
House of Representatives

Pam Hayes, WV-DEP  
Concerned Citizens to Save Fayette County, Inc.  
Anna Shaffer  
Berwind Corporation  
The Johns Hopkins University  
Joseph Schock, WV Dept. of Health, w/o attachments



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-4431

FILE COPY

JAN 24 1994

Charles Walters  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry  
c/o EPA Region III Hazardous Waste Management Div. (3HW01)  
841 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Mr Walters;

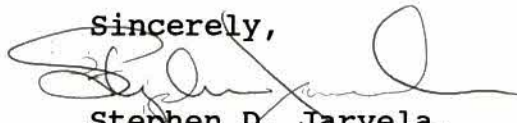
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I have also asked other interested parties to review the trip report and identify any concerns or questions that they might have. I want to schedule a meeting with all interested parties to discuss in detail the conditions of this site. I am willing to discuss each and every issue or concern raised in the past or may now be raised about the Shaffer Site. Because of past confusion and misinformation, every issue or concern discussed will be documented and a written EPA response prepared and distributed.

The past file review and the recent site visits indicate a need for further action. While it is premature to discuss the scope of such action, everyone will be given an opportunity to present and defend their preferred option at the meeting. I have asked that, each interested party develop their own options addressing the risks associated with the site that they have identified. All options will be discussed, documented, and will be incorporated in the OSCs recommendation.

Again thank you and if you have any questions or require additional information please call me at (215)597-7915.

Sincerely,



Stephen D. Jarvela,  
On-Scene Coordinator

attachment

cc Joseph P. Schock, Director (w/attachment) WV-HHS

FILE COPY



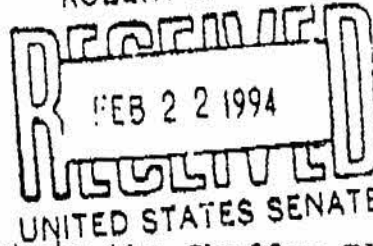


UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-4431

ROBERT C. BYRD

FEB 16 1994

Honorable Robert C. Byrd  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510



Dear Senator Byrd:

Knowing of your interest in the Shaffer Electric Site in Minden, West Virginia, I wanted to assure that you are up to date on recent developments at this site.

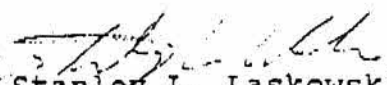
As you may be aware, during October and November of 1993 a Technical Assistance Team (TAT) implemented a site review workplan. I am forwarding the site review trip report which has been prepared by the TAT to you for your information.

The On-Scene Coordinator assigned to this site will be reviewing this information and evaluating the threat or potential threat to the public health or the environment posed by this site. We have also asked other interested parties to review the trip report and identify any concerns or questions that they might have. We intend to schedule a meeting with all interested parties to discuss in detail the conditions of this site. Every issue or concern raised during this process will be documented and a written EPA response prepared and distributed.

The past file review and the recent site visits indicate a need for further action. While we have not yet determined the scope of such action, all interested parties will have the opportunity to review and comment on any proposed actions, or to present other options for consideration.

We are now working with the area citizens' groups to establish a date for a public meeting to discuss these issues. We will continue to keep your office informed of our meeting plans and any other developments at this site. If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Ray George at (304) 234-0234.

Sincerely,

  
Stanley L. Laskowski  
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure